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## INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Russian ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~)

SUBJECT SED-SMA Reaction to the Western Freight Blockade

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
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1. The DUK has received a directive from the SMA calling for a list of all raw materials required by the Russian Zone from the west. Steel requirements are to be computed on the basis of a 50% increase in production for the next four months. As a supplement to this list the DUK is requested to offer proposals as to which eastern European countries might be able to supply the material hitherto received from the west, and what the Russian Zone is able to offer in exchange.
2. Fritz Selbmann is reported to be very optimistic on the prospects for obtaining all necessary supplies from the east. He has accordingly been entrusted with the task of complying with this SMA directive.
3. The Russians are said to be well aware of the difficulties in the way of such a program. They have pointed out that Czechoslovakia has a highly-developed industry fully capable of utilizing all the steel it has available, and that Poland is reluctant to ship any steel to Germany until the Oder-Neisse line has been finally ratified. Other nations of eastern Europe are considered of negligible importance as sources of steel.

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